WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of providing power to a telecom/datacom system, the system having a plurality of slots for housing a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards and a plurality of power supplies, the method comprising:

forming independently powered slots by coupling each slot adapted to receive a power supply to a slot adapted to receive any of a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards;

housing one power supply in a slot adapted to receive a power supply;

housing one electronic circuit board of the plurality of types in a slot coupled to a slot housing the power supply; and

supplying power to the one electronic circuit board of the at plurality of types from the power supply via the coupled slots.

2. An independently powered slots architecture comprising:

housing for a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards and a plurality of power supplies, the housing having independently powered slots formed by coupling each slot adapted to receive a power supply to a different slot adapted to receive any of a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards; and

power input connectors for providing power from a central power supply to the power supply via the slots adapted to receive a power supply.

3. An independently powered slots architecture for use in a telecom/datacom system, comprising:

a chassis having a front side and a rear side;

a card cage for housing a plurality of types of electronic circuit boards and a plurality of power supplies, the card cage having independently powered slots formed by coupling each slot adapted to receive a power supply to a different slot adapted to receive any of a plurality of types of electronic circuit board;

a cooling module; and

at least one independent power supply connected via the coupled slots to an I/O card to provide power to the I/O card.

4. The architecture according to claim 3, wherein the power provided to the I/O card is provided via a midplane using power pins.

5. The architecture according to claim 3, wherein the power provided to the I/O card is provided via a cable from the independent power supply.

7. The architecture according to claim 3, further comprising a manager module.

8. The architecture according to claim 7, wherein the manager module itself provides power to the I/O card via the coupled slots.

9. The architecture according to claim 8, wherein the manager module provides connections to the at least one power supply in the chassis.

10. The architecture according to claim 3, further comprises an alarm module.

11. The architecture according to claim 10, wherein the alarm module includes I/O connectivity for each power supply.

12. The architecture according to claim 11, wherein the alarm module further includes at least one LED.

13. A method for supplying power in telecom/datacom systems, comprising:

connecting dual power inputs from a central power supply to independent power supplies; and

connecting each of the independent power supplies to a corresponding I/O card, and utilizing the power supply as the sole power source to the I/O card.